

Application No.: 09/856,933

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-80 (canceled)

Claim 81 (previously presented): A homogenous preparation of recombinant soluble FcγRIIb receptor, wherein the receptor contains the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3, the receptor being characterized by the absence of a transmembrane domain, signal peptide and glycosylation, the said preparation being obtainable by expression of a nucleic acid encoding such receptor in prokaryotes under conditions that lead to production of insoluble inclusion bodies and renaturation of the receptor molecules from the inclusion bodies.

Claim 82 (canceled)

Claim 83 (previously presented): The homogenous preparation of claim 81, wherein the receptor is of human origin.

Claim 84 (previously presented): Pharmaceutical composition, containing a homogenous preparation of a recombinant soluble FcγRIIb receptor according to claim 81 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 85 (currently amended): Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 84 for use in the treatment or prevention of autoimmune diseases, allergies or tumor diseases, wherein said diseases are characterized by the presence of autoantibodies.

Claim 86 (canceled):

Claim 87 (canceled)

Claim 88 (canceled)

Claim 89 (canceled)

Claim 90 (canceled)

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Claim 91 (canceled)

Claim 92 (canceled)

Claim 93 (previously presented): Pharmaceutical composition, containing a homogenous preparation of a recombinant soluble FcγRIIb receptor according to claim 83 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 94 (currently amended): Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 85 for use in the treatment or prevention of AIDS, rheumatoid arthritis or multiple myeloma.

Claim 95 (withdrawn): A prokaryotic expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule which encodes the soluble FcγRIIb receptor of claim 81.

Claim 96 (withdrawn): The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 95, wherein said nucleic acid molecule contains the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9.

Claim 97 (withdrawn): The prokaryotic expression vector of claim 95, further comprising an expression control sequence operably linked to the nucleic acid molecule encoding the Fc receptor.

Claim 98 (withdrawn): A host cell characterized by the presence of a nucleic acid molecule which encodes the soluble FcγRIIb receptor of claim 81, wherein said cell is a prokaryotic host cell.

Claim 99 (new): A method of treating multiple sclerosis, systemic lupus erythematosus, rheumatoid arthritis or alveolitis comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of the composition of claim 84 to a subject in need thereof.